



A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Columbia City Council has developed a Criminal Domestic Violence Task Force to address the critical domestic violence issues that affect citizens throughout our community; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina ranks fifth nationally in the number of women murdered by men, according to the Violence Policy Center's annual study; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is the leading cause of injuries to women age fifteen to forty-four, more common than auto accidents, mugging, and cancer combined; and

WHEREAS, males may also be the victims of domestic violence and experience the same dynamics of interpersonal violence as female victims including disbelief, ridicule and shame that only encourages their silence; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia recognizes and appreciates the hard work and dedication from agencies such as the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Sistercare.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Stephen K. Benjamin, Mayor of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, along with my fellow members of Columbia City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in the great City of Columbia and urge my fellow citizens to recognize and participate in its observance.

*Stephen K. Benjamin
Mayor*

*Sam Davis
District I, Council Member*

*Tameika Isaac Devine
At-Large, Council Member*

*Moe Baddourah
District III, Council Member*

*Howard E. Duvall, Jr.
At-Large, Council Member*

*Edward McDowell, Jr.
District II, Council Member*